

THE ALMA RECORD.

VOL. XI.—NO. 22

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 29, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 2058

COMMISSION'S POWERS GIVEN

Proposed Charter Tells What City Commission May and May Not Do.

MUST MEET ONCE A WEEK

Provides for Full Hearings for Any Official Before He May Be Removed.

Previous articles on the city charter have taken up the powers of the city, the boundaries of the city and wards, the elective and the appointive officials. In the article this week the salaries of the officers, filling of vacancies in office, removal of appointive officials and the method of procedure for the city commission.

Chapter six deals with the salaries, fixing the salary of the mayor at \$300.00 and that of the commissioners at \$200.00 per year. The salaries of the supervisors are to be the same as that allowed by law for services of supervisors unless otherwise ordered by the commission. The commission is required to determine the salaries of the other officials and employees of the city, except for the wages of laborers and casual employees which are to be fixed by the manager, subject to the approval of the commission. Salaries of officers of the city continued by the charter shall remain as they now are until otherwise determined. This chapter also provides that the salaries of appointive officials shall not be changed during their term of office.

Chapter seven in taking up vacancies provides that vacancies in elective offices, except as otherwise provided by the charter, shall be filled temporarily by appointment by the commission, and that the appointees shall hold office until successors are elected. Vacancies are to be filled at the regular state election following, prior to which there is time to take the needed action.

It is provided that if by reason of resignation, death or failure to elect, or because of other circumstance, three or more vacancies exist at the same time on the commission, then the city supervisors shall convene at the call of the city clerk, and make such appointments as are necessary to constitute a commission of five qualified members. It will require a majority vote of the supervisors to make such appointment.

Elective officers ceasing to be residents of the city, convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or if they become a defaulter to the city, will lose their office, it is provided.

Vacancies in appointive offices are to be filled by the commission for the unexpired term only and at the same salary. Appointive officers may be suspended from office by the commission whenever such officials shall, by the commission be deemed guilty of willful misfeasance or malfeasance of office, incompetency or neglect of duty.

No official holding office for a definite term shall be removed from office until he has been served with a complete statement of the charges made against him, and shall have had and opportunity for a fair and full hearing before the commission, after at least five days' written notice. He may employ counsel or present evidence in his own behalf. The city commission may by ordinance, prescribe rules for such hearings.

Chapter eight places all powers of the city, except as herein stated with the city commission.

It provides that the first meeting of the commission shall be at the city chambers on the first Tuesday in May, 1919, at 8:00. All other regular meetings shall be held on Tuesday of each week at such hour as may be determined. Special meetings may be called by the mayor or two commissioners by notice, in writing, filed with the clerk. The clerk is required to notify all members at least two hours before the time of meeting. It is also provided that all members of the commission may hold a valid meeting at any time without notice so served. It is provided that three members will constitute a quorum.

The city clerk is to be the clerk of the commission, to attend the meetings, record all of its proceedings and furnish certified copies of all records of his office when required by any city officer.

The commission is given power to appoint committees, adopt rules and by-laws for its guidance, not inconsistent with the charter and the general laws. It is empowered to be the sole judge of the election and qualification of its members.

Section seven of this chapter provides that no money shall be appropriated except by resolution or ordinance. It provides that all votes on ordinances and resolutions shall be by yeas and nays, and that all voting on appointive officers shall be by ballot. One week is provided in which to publish the minutes and a meeting of the commission in one of the newspapers of the city. The commission is given the power to compel the attendance of its members and other officers of the city at the meetings and may enforce fines for

non-attendance by ordinance, and in a like manner, by ordinance, may punish any member or person present at any session of the commission for misbehavior, contemptuous or disorderly conduct.

The appointive officers are given the power to take part in the proceedings and deliberations of the commission on all matters relating to the respective departments, subject to rules by the commission. They will be without a vote on such matters.

The commission is given the power to sub-divide its work by the appointment of members to any particular municipal work. Such committees shall perform the such duties, investigations, have charge of and report upon such matters as are properly conferred upon them.

The city commission will have the power to investigate charges against any of its members or any other subject which it may deem proper to investigate. To facilitate such investigation the mayor or any justice of the peace is empowered, at the request of the commission, to issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of persons and the production of books and papers in a like manner as the proceedings before courts of law. The commission is given the right to adopt rules for the conduct of such proceedings, as may facilitate the investigations.

In the article of next week such matters as electors and registration, primary elections and elections will be taken up. As the manner of choosing the candidates under the commission is greatly different from the present method, the next article will be of great importance to the voters of the city.

TORBENSEN NINE IS HERE FRIDAY

Republic Factory and Business Places to Close for Biggest Game Played Here.

Friday afternoon at 3:30 on Republic field, will be staged the biggest baseball game ever attempted in Alma, when the Torbensen Axle company nine of Cleveland, champions of that city, mix with the Republics of Alma, rejuvenated through the addition of some select stars who have been secured for this battle.

The team which will represent the Republics in the battle will be the strongest aggregation, without a question, that has ever appeared in Alma, as a team representing an Alma institution, and one which bids fair to give the Torbensen team a great battle for the day's honors.

The Torbensen tribe is composed of some of the famous stars of baseball, including such men as the Delehantys, who have made big league history, and play a great brand of base ball. Recently at Akron this team held the New York Giants to a 4 to 4 score in an exhibition game, which gives an idea of the strength of the visitors.

Great plans are being made for this battle out at Republic. The factory will close down for the game, and a petition around the business places insures the closing of the business houses for the battle, so that everyone will have a chance to see the two greatest teams in action which have ever staged a game in Alma.

Following the game a big banquet will be given to the members of the two teams at the Republic cafeteria.

PICARD SPOKE

French Lieutenant Gave Good Address at Monday Evening Meeting.

Lieutenant J. A. Picard of the French army, who is a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Francis King, gave a good address at the Presbyterian church Monday evening, that held the attention of those who heard it, and created considerable comment.

Lieutenant Picard, as was expected, devoted his lecture to war work, and other vital matters pertaining to the great struggle which is sapping out the blood of the European nations, and which called this country to arms in the aid of humanity.

He took up the matter of the social conditions that are existing in France today, matters of live interest to all Americans and especially those who have relatives "over there."

He discussed the war at the present time and took up the proposition of how the people here in America can help win the great struggle, and back up those hundreds and thousands of young Americans and their Allies who are now battling the Hun. The theme of the address was "Think for Victory, Speak for Victory, Work for Victory and Pray for Victory."

WAS INJURED

Burt Hicks of this City Injured Friday in Wreck.

Burt Hicks of this city, traveling salesman, was very painfully injured on Friday of last week in a wreck near Marion.

It seems that Mr. Hicks was on the southbound motor coming to Alma, when a freight train crashed into the motor car, which was standing on the track. Quite a number of people were in the motor car at the time and twelve of them suffered injuries to some extent.

SERG. LEONARD DIED IN ACTION

Alma Boy Killed on Firing Line in France, Fighting Huns on July 31.

WITH THE RAINBOW DIVISION

C. B. Perkins of North Star, William Fields, A. Pinkston, and Floyd Coss Are Others Killed.

Serg. Harry Leonard, the son of Frank Leonard of this city, was the second Alma man killed in action according to advices, being killed July 31, the day before Corporal George Myers was killed. This makes Myers the third killed in action instead of the second.

Leonard was a member of Co. E, 125th Infantry, this being the old Michigan National Guard, which was in the big July drive on the western front. The 125th was a part of the already famous Rainbow division which was the first into the great fight over there, and which has been making a name for itself.

The record of Leonard shows two years of service before going to France, he having been at Calumet during the strike there and also on the Mexican border during the trouble with Mexico.



SERG. HARRY LEONARD

Harry James Leonard was born at Fenton, September 4, 1881, and came to Alma with his parents when six years old. He attended the Alma public schools, graduating in 1903. He then attended Alma college for the next two years. He was a graduate of the Valparaiso School of Telegraphy.

He leaves a father, F. A. Leonard, and a younger brother, C. B. Leonard, to mourn his loss, besides a host of friends, all of whom have the proud knowledge that he has died for the great cause of humanity, the world over.

The first boy to lay down his life for his country whose home was in Gratiot county, was Serg. Clarence B. Perkins, who was killed in action June 6 thus preceding by nearly a month the death of Howard C. Wolverton of Breckenridge. Perkins was the son of Mrs. Peter Zimmerman of North Star. His home was originally in Coleman, Isabella county, from which place he enlisted in the regular army nine years ago. This perhaps accounts for his death and residence not having been reported more promptly to his mother who after the death of his father was married to Peter Zimmerman of North Star.

He was born April 11, 1886, in Rowland township, Isabella county. He enlisted first in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. From there he was sent to the Soo where he remained two years. Was next four years in the Philippines, one year in Alaska. Then he



PRIVATE WILLIAM FIELDS

was sent to the training camp at Plattsburg, N. Y. From there he went to Camp Green, North Carolina. He left for France last April. Marshall Field of the firm of Field & Son, St. Louis, grocers, received word Tuesday that his son, William Field, had been killed August 1, on the Marne front. He is the first St. Louis boy to lose his life at the front. Details of his death are, of course, wanting. Field was 30 years old and (Continued on page four)



SERG. CLARENCE B. PERKINS

FIFTY-THREE YOUNG MEN REGISTERED

Twenty-Oners Since June Fifth Were Listed Saturday for Military Duty.

Fifty-three young sons of Gratiot county, who have turned twenty-one since June 5, 1918, and before August 24, 1918, registered with the Gratiot County Draft board Saturday to offer themselves if need be, on the altar of sacrifice for their country and humanity.

The list of the men who registered follows:

Desney Aldrich, R. 4, Ithaca
Ira Anshury, Alma
William E. Anderson, Alma
Arthur Babcock, Alma
Elmer Bliss, R. 1, Ithaca
Carl S. Boyer, R. 2, Wheeler
James L. Brocht, R. 2, Summit
Don Brown, R. 1, Ithaca
Lynn E. Chalker, Ithaca
Claude City, R. 1, Middleton
William Crum, Breckenridge
John Cummings, Alma
Lorraine Cook, Alma
Sam Dietz, Alma
Lyle K. Dunn, R. 7, Ithaca
Harry Arlo Eckert, Alma
L. J. Fuller, Alma
Lester Hammond, R. 2, Ashley
Arlt Rott, Reppenthal, Wheeler
Harold Hilsinger, St. Louis
Freston Hodges, Detroit
Adair A. Howe, Perrinton
William Allen Inman, Carson City
Eloyd Krantz, Middleton
Victor Laskie, Alma
Vern Landon, Carson City
Vern Malcolm, Leroy, Alma
Homer Lepley, R. 1, Middleton
Lee Laurence, St. Louis
Geoff Martin, Middleton
Earl Raymond Martin, Alma
Raymond Martin, R. 1, North Star
Lloyd G. Miller, R. 1, Ithaca
Lawrence Moffett, R. 1, North Star
Marlow O'Connell, R. 2, Carson City
Dana Phillips, Perrinton
Charles H. Rapp, Ithaca
Grant Rockwell, R. 2, Elwell
Roy Scott, Alma
Alvin Shook, St. Louis
Howard Smith, Ithaca
Harvey Smith, R. 1, Ashley
Horace Sney, R. 2, Breckenridge
Vern Frisbie Stude, R. 6, Ithaca
Robert Strong, Ithaca
John T. Towner, R. 1, Hill
Bert Warren, R. 3, Alma
Luther Williams, Ithaca
Ray Wolfe, Ithaca
Lester M. Wolfe, Alma
Alma Zinn, Alma
Donald Bush, R. 1, Middleton

WALLER SPEAKS

Cereal Disease Specialist Gave Address to War Board.

Dr. A. E. Waller, cereal disease specialist of the United States Department of Agriculture, spoke in Ithaca last Monday night at the meeting of the executive committee of the War Preparedness board of Gratiot county.

The pressing need for wheat growers to treat seed this fall before sowing in order to avoid loss from smut was clearly brought out. In part Dr. Waller said:

"Mr. Hoover announced lately in London that the wheat shipment during the year was 141,000,000 bushels of our last year's crop. The most authoritative figures of the U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry on smut gives the loss as four million barrels of flour. This means that our loss from smut was between 12 and 15 per cent of the amount Hoover shipped to the Allies. For every hundred barrels of flour actually shipped, we could have shipped 12 barrels, at least, more, if we had avoided our losses from smut. Do you not suppose that with the cry for bread ringing in his ears Hoover would have found the ships to send this extra amount if we had furnished the wheat?"

"While this condition is an extremely serious one there is no need of becoming unduly alarmed over it. We know perfectly well that if seed wheat is treated with formaldehyde just before it is sown that the seed is killed. The treatment is simple. It is also cheap and effective. Its use adds twenty to fifty dollars to the value of the average farmer's crop. It also gives us, something more valuable than the money right now, wheat for our Allies and our soldiers overseas."

Dr. Waller will remain in Gratiot county during the fair where he will exhibit wheat smut and explain the methods in use for treating seed. He will also speak at the Illinois picnic next Saturday.

RECRUIT OLDER MEN

Corporal Smith, in charge of the Alma recruiting office, has informed The Alma Record that he can now enlist men between the ages of 45 and 55 for work in the quartermaster department. Until further notice these men will be the only men whom he can enlist.

ANNUAL PICNIC COMES FRIDAY

Former Illinois Residents Will Hold Annual Event Saturday in Wright Park.

GOOD PROGRAM IS ASSURED

Senator Scully of Almont and Dr. Waller of Washington are Principal Speakers.

A fine program has been arranged for the annual Illinois picnic which is to be held at Wright park in Alma Saturday which promises to draw to this city practically all of the former residents of Illinois who now live in this part of the state, particularly those who are residing in Gratiot county.

The annual picnic will start at 10 a. m., the morning to be spent in visiting among the old Illinois friends who will be present at the meeting. At noon a big basket picnic of the kind that is usually held will be spread out at convenient spots in the park.

This will be followed by the program which has two big features that promise to interest the farmers greatly, as they will be upon subjects that will come close to the farmers.

One of these will be the main address of the afternoon, the speaker being Senator Scully of Almont, former president of the State Farmers' club. He will bring some important matters to the former Illinois residents that will be of great interest to them.

Dr. Waller of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., will also be one of the speakers. His address to the farmers will be along the lines of seed disease and its treatment. The government is conducting an active campaign in this section, as well as other parts of the country, to eradicate as far as possible seed diseases, thus insuring bigger crops. The diseases, treatment, the small cost of treating the seed and the great results obtained, will be some of the matters which will be put before the farmers in this address.

The program for the afternoon follows:

Community singing.
Devotionals—Rev. Duffey.
Song, "Illinois"—Audience.
Recitation—Eleanor Putnam.
Reading—Paul Bayburn.
Violin solo—Joannie Miller.
Recitation—August Arnold.
Reading—Miss Clark.
Reminiscences of Illinois—Mrs. George Ryder.
Address—Senator Scully, Almont.
Seed Disease—Dr. Waller, Washington, D. C.
Closing song—Audience.

KING'S GREETINGS

Letter Sent Home by L. H. Froesch of 338th Infantry.

L. H. Froesch of Company D, 338th Infantry, has sent a letter to Henry Froesch, 617 River avenue, which is highly interesting, it being the greetings sent to the American soldiers by his majesty, King George of England.

The greeting follows: "Windsor Castle, the people of the British Isles welcome you on your way to take your stand beside the armies of many nations now fighting in the old world the great battle for human freedom. The Allies will gain new heart and spirit in your company. I wish I could shake the hand of each one of you and bid you God speed on your mission."

"April, 1918."

START WORK

Park Board Starts Work on Plans of Yeomans for Park.

Following a study of Wright park, Landscape Gardener Yeomans of Chicago, has laid plans for the beautifying of this splendid wooded tract in the heart of the city, and the park board, of which Frank F. Smith is the chairman, is now actively engaged in the work as laid down in these plans.

The first thing that is to be done under the plans is to remove some of the trees in the park. Those which are to be taken out have all been marked by Mr. Yeomans, so that the board will find its work much easier than it otherwise would.

When the trees have been removed the other work toward beautifying the park will be started and Chairman Smith of the park board is in hope of getting the work completed this fall.

MARRIED AT WHEELER

News of the marriage of Private Charles A. Maney of Camp Custer to Miss Eva B. Wolansky of Wheeler on Saturday evening, August 17, has been received here.

Private Maney will be remembered as a former instructor at Alma college and a member of the former firm of Smith & Maney of this city, which handle pianos, talking machines, etc. The Record joins his many Alma friends in extending congratulations.

NO JOY RIDING

Sunday Pleasure Riding With Gasoline Cars Is Hit by Administration.

The fuel administration of the United States has called upon the public in all states east of the Mississippi river to stop the use of pleasure cars, motorcycles and motorboats, in the effort to save gasoline, which is to be in much demand by the government in the winning of the war.

It is given out that the order is a voluntary one, but the public is given to understand that the continued use of pleasure cars, motorcycles and motorboats will lead to a mandatory order in this respect, which will compel the public to give it the proper attention and heed.

There are exceptions to the rule. The restrictions laid down do not include tractors and trucks employed in the actual transportation of freight, cars used by physicians, ambulances, fire apparatus, police patrols, undertakers' conveyances, repair outfits of telephone and telegraph companies and vehicles used in the country where steam transportation is not available.

The move has been made by the fuel administration to present a threatened shortage of gasoline for overseas, which has been created by the extensive use of this fuel by the armies in France.

It is estimated that twenty-five per cent of the fuel oil consumed last year was wasted, or about \$1,000,000,000 worth. The appeal is made from a patriotic standpoint and the government is expecting the patriotic citizens of the territory effected to live up to its request.

HEAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE ARRANGED

Alma College Eleven Will Play Seven Games, Four of Which Are M. I. A. A. Affairs.

Although there will be military training at Alma college this year, football will again claim its own, and a heavy schedule has been arranged for the Maroon and Cream eleven this fall, with every prospect that it will be a green team that will carry the schedule through.

Alma will not be alone in having a green team, however, as it is very probable that every other college will be on the same footing as Alma in this respect. They may have a few old men back, Alma probably won't. At least not over one old man is expected to return.

This means that the premier coach of the M. I. A. A., Harry Helmer, will have a big job on his hands in getting a team together this year to carry through the schedule which has been arranged.

The schedule follows:
October 5—Hillsdale college at Alma.
October 12—M. A. C. at East Lansing.
October 19—Mt. Pleasant Normal at Alma.
October 26—Albion college at Albion.
November 2—Ypsilanti Normals at Ypsilanti.
November 9—Olivet college at Alma.
November 17—Kalamazoo college at Alma.

PASS NEW DRAFT LAW

New Draft Act Passed by House and Then by the Senate.

Following the passage of the 18 to 45 draft act by the House, the U. S. Senate Wednesday voted through the measure with a solid vote, and a full agreement between the two houses is expected this week on the modified work or fight amendment to the bill which was tacked on in the Senate.

The War Department is now at work arranging for the new registration, due to the desire to get these men registered at the earliest possible moment and immediately that the two houses agree on the bill, it is expected that the War Department will announce plans for the registration.

It is expected that the new registration of the millions of men affected by the new draft act, will be held within the next thirty days.

MILLINERY OPENING

The advance showing of the autumn styles of millinery will be held at The Gaffney Style Shop, September 2 to 7, showing all of the authoritative modes for the season in all the popular fabrics and materials, in both pattern and tailored hats.

Mrs. Gaffney has secured the services of Miss Ruth Shirk of Chicago, who has charge of the workroom. She is assisted by Miss Stevenson. The sales department is in charge of Miss Winnie Boyd.

HERE AFTER TRUCKS

Two hundred and fifty soldiers of Company 106, Ammunition Train 250, United States Army, arrived in Alma over the Pere Marquette the first of the week to drive Liberty trucks from Alma through to Baltimore.

The men came from Camp Wheeler, Ga. It is expected that they will leave here the latter part of the week on the start of the trip overland to the coast.

NEWBERRY AND FORDNEY WIN

Very Light Vote Cast in Every Precinct of Twenty-Six in the County.

WILLERT SHERIFF WINNER

Folkert Nominee for Treasurer and Laycock for Drain Commissioner in Hot Race.

The primary election in Gratiot county Tuesday was very surprising from the standpoint of the very small vote which was out, hardly a precinct in the entire county turning out a vote that was anywhere near that which is usually counted upon. This was probably due to the lack of heated contests on the tickets, and because of labor conditions, the two without question keeping hundreds away from the polls.

Three contests on the Republican ticket were holding interest before the election and there was much speculation on them, these being the probable vote in Gratiot on the senatorial race and the race for the nomination of a candidate for sheriff and for treasurer. With the report of the early returns Tuesday night, another contest seemed to be looming up, this being between Fordney and Townsend for the nomination for congress, but it was speedily dispelled as continued reports came in from the various precincts giving Joe a handsome lead, so that he won out in Gratiot by nearly 300 votes.

In the senatorial voting Newberry, as was expected, took the lead and rapidly increased it, counting nearly two votes to one for Ford, who took second place with Osborn a poor third.

A heavy vote expected to come out in Alma, and enable Arthur J. Murphy to make a lively scrap for the nomination for sheriff was lacking, less than one-third of the normal vote being out. Alfred Willert of Middleton picked off the honors with ease. Alma paid a handsome compliment to Murphy, however, when it sent him out of the city with a lead of 105 votes out of about 360 cast.

The fight for the nomination for treasurer also brought out an interesting battle between W. C. Folkert of Wheeler and Sidney Evey of Sumner, the former winning the nomination. Erva R. Laycock was also nominated, he taking the nomination for drain commissioner by 70 votes.

The Republican results follow. The full Democratic returns are not available.

For Senator—	
Simpson	58
Osborn	287
Ford	408
Newberry	922-524
For Governor—	
Sleeper	1633
For Lieut. Governor—	
Dickinson	1357
For Representative in Congress—	
Townsend	690
Fordney	1006-316
For State Senator—	
Amon	1386
For Representative in Legislature—	
Rose	1384
For Sheriff—	
Lewis	152
Martin	344
Murphy	458
Willert	849-391
For County Clerk—	
Case	1494
For County Treasurer—	
Evey	792
Folkert	934-142
For Register of Deeds—	
Tucker	1618
For Prosecuting Attorney—	
Smith	1554
For Drain Commissioner—	
Knapp	605
Rasor	436
Laycock	675-70

Having no opposition tabulations have not been made on the vote of Harrod for surveyor, N. Smith and Spinnery for circuit court commissioners and Hall and Ludwig for coroners.

GRATIOT'S HONOR ROLL

Gratiot county's honor roll of men who have made the supreme sacrifice for country and humanity is slowly growing. It now contains eight names, four of whom were from Alma. It follows:

Serg. Clarence B. Perkins of North Star, killed June 6.
Serg. Howard C. Wolverton of Breckenridge, killed July 16.
Pvt. Leslie McLean of Alma, killed July 20.
Serg. Harry Leonard of Alma, killed July 31.
Corporal George W. Myers of Alma, killed August 1.
Pvt. William Fields of St. Louis, killed August 1.
Allen Pinkston, R. F. D., St. Louis, died of wounds, August 2.
Eldred Sanchez, Alma, drowned at Camp Dix, August 21.

SEVERELY WOUNDED

Private Floyd Coss of Ithaca has been listed as severely wounded. The Record has been unable to secure details, but it is probable that he was wounded during the latter part of the big July drive.